

July 27, 2025

A Reflection Before the Service

“Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction.”

—Blaise Pascal, *Pensées*

Yes, well, *The Bondage of the Will* is so meaningful to me in my own spiritual life. I spent a few months reading it because I really pondered every point he was making. And having read Erasmus' *The Freedom of the Will* before that, I could see that this doctrine, which is a great source of hope and relief for Luther, is itself a kind of bondage for Erasmus. He cannot see anything positive about it. Whereas for Luther, the fact that God chooses us, that God is sovereignly causing us to turn toward Him, is good news. For Erasmus, it's bad news because he can only see God as this monster putting us in chains.

And of course Luther's great tract, *The Freedom of the Christian*, talks about the fact that as Christians, we are totally free yet we're also a servant of all.

We often value the wrong kind of freedom. We want the maximum number of choices on offer, and as long as we're unimpeded in making those choices, we think that we're free. But actually, if we're fundamentally unable to make good choices, then it doesn't matter how many choices there are — we're going to make the wrong one. And that's what Luther is arguing. The problem is that we are not capable of choosing God, that we will always turn our backs on the cross because the cross is an offense, the cross tells us that we're sinners, that we need someone to save us. And the turn to God can only happen by grace.

— Amy Mantravadi, author of the novel *Broken Bonds* as interviewed by *MBird.com* (7.3.25)

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Introduction of New Members (Membership Vows on page 13)

The Call to Worship: *The One-Hundredth Psalm*

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.

Serve the LORD with gladness;

Come before Him with joyful singing.

Know that the LORD Himself is God;

It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting

And His faithfulness to all generations.

(Prayer)

The Introit

(9:00) **“O Zion Haste”**

-Perry

Proclaim to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation
That God in Whom they live and breathe is love;
Tell how He stooped to save His lost creation
And died on earth that man might live above.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,
Tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

(11:15) **“Alpha and Omega”**

- Mutanbira

You are Alpha and Omega; we worship You, our Lord. You are worthy to be praised.
We give You all the glory; we worship You, our Lord. You are worthy to be praised.

The Opening Hymns of Praise

9:00 “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name” (vv. 1,3,5-6)

#296

“To God Be the Glory” (all 3 verses)

#55

11:15 “Praise to the Lord the Almighty”

-Neander

(Seated intro)

All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

(Congregation stands)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yes, so gently sustaineth!
Have thou not seen how all your longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly fore’er we adore Him.

Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly fore’er we adore Him.

11:15 “Your Grace is Enough

-Tomlin

Great is Your faithfulness, Oh God.
You wrestle with the sinner's heart.
You lead us by still waters into mercy and nothing can keep us apart.

So remember Your people, remember Your children,
Remember Your promise, Oh God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.

Great is Your love and justice, God.
You use the weak to lead the strong.
You lead us in the song of Your salvation and all Your people sing along.

So remember Your people, remember Your children,
Remember Your promise, Oh God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.

Your grace is enough. Heaven reaches out to us.
Your grace is enough for me.

(God I sing) Your grace is enough.
I'm covered in Your love.
Your grace is enough for me, for me, for me.

A Corporate Confession of Sin:

Reader: God of truth and mercy, we seek assurance of Your forgiveness.

We are unworthy to be Your children, unfit to be Your servants.

We are burdened with memories of things undone that **ought** to have been done, and of things done that **ought not** to have been done.

People: We need a wider, deeper view of the Cross of Jesus Christ. Break us and grant us repentance leading to new joy.

Reader: Bring afresh the healing and reviving power of Your Spirit, that we may lay hold of Your salvation by faith and walk in the newness of life, to the glory and praise of Your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silent Reflection and Confession)

Assurance of Pardon and New Grace In Christ: Ezekiel 36.26-27 (NLT)

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow My decrees and be careful to obey My judgments.

Prayers of Request:

We ask for a greater display of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives; Spirit, let us see our hardness and stubbornness break and melt under Your gracious influence: **(Silence)**

We pray for a powerful sense of God's presence with us in our daily routines and in the way we love people whom we find to be difficult: **(Silence)**

We pray for our church, for people we've not seen for a time, for brothers and sisters in need; Holy Spirit, give us discernment leading to practical acts of love: **(Silence)**

For a world in need, our neighbors, co-workers and family, people in Texas, people in the Middle East and in Sudan and Ukraine, we ask Your healing mercy: **(Silence)**

The Declaration of Faith and Offering: The Nicene Creed *

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism** for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Response: “The Doxology”

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicaea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer false teachings that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ. * Catholic means international **Baptism refers to the inner work of the Holy Spirit regenerating and forgiving all who trust in Jesus Christ.

9:00 "How Beautiful"

- Paris, arr. Larson

How beautiful the hands that served
the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth!
How beautiful the feet that walked
the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross!
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ!

How beautiful the heart that bled,
that took all my sin and bore it instead!
How beautiful the tender eyes
that choose to forgive and never despise!
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ!

And as He laid down His life,
we offer this sacrifice:
that we will live just as He died:
willing to pay the price,
willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant bride
who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes!
How beautiful when humble hearts give
the fruit of pure lives so that others may live!
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ!

11:15 “Lead Me to Thee”

-Neander / Smith / Woodard

Behold me here, in grief draw near, pleading at Thy throne, oh King.
To Thee each tear, each trembling fear, Jesus, Son of Man, I bring.
Lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee,
Lord of mercy, King of grace.

Look down in love, and from above, with Thy Spirit satisfy.
Thou has sought me, Thou hast bought me, and Thy purchase Lord, am I.
Lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee,
Here on earth and then on high.

Hear the broken, scarcely spoken, longings of my heart to Thee
all the crying, all the sighing, of Thy child accepted be.
Lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee,
Wounded healer, suffering Lord.

Lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee, lead me to Thee,
Wounded healer, suffering Lord.

The Scripture Reading: St Paul's Letter to Rome 9.30-10.15

What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith; ³¹ but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ just as it is written, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

^{10.1} Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. ² For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. ³ For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

⁵ For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law shall live by that righteousness. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (that is, to bring Christ down), ⁷ or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)." ⁸ But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"--that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; ¹³ for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

¹⁴ How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be to God!

The Sermon

- The Rev Dr. Tim Sansbury

The Letter to Rome | Slaves Freed to Love
“My Heart’s Pursuit”

Tim Sansbury is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America. He is Professor of Philosophy and Theology at Knox Theological Seminary. Tim grew up in Miami and attended Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church. He’s married to Tesa and they have three daughters.

The Closing Hymn

9:00 “I Know Whom I Have Believed” (vv. 1-3)

#705

11:15 “Here I Am to Worship”

-Hughes, Zschech

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

**Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You are God
You’re altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

King of all days, O so highly exalted
Glorious in Heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love’s sake became poor

(Chorus)

I’ll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

(Repeat 3x)

(Chorus 2x)

The Benediction and Amen

The Postlude

SUNDAYS at PARK ROAD

SERMON SERIES

The Letter to Rome | Slaves Freed to Love

One author called it “the greatest letter ever written”, another titled it “The Explanation”.

St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans is undoubtedly one of the most influential documents ever produced. The basic theme (the gift of God’s righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ) is a power we need to discover and daily re-discover as it impacts all relationships, decisions and desires in our lives. It’s about slaves (sin) freed (salvation) to love (service) – tune in!

Aug. 3 — Romans 11.1-10	Chosen by Grace
Aug. 10 — Romans 11.25-36	The Mercy of God
Aug. 17 — Romans 13.1-7	Living Under Authority

SUNDAY CLASSES | 10:10-11:05 AM

The Big Chill | Fellowship Hall

Throughout hot July, we’ll chill out in the Fellowship Hall for some quality time together. Come enjoy freshly brewed coffee, tasty pastries, and wonderful company. Each table will have ice-breaker suggestions to spark conversation, but feel free to let the discussion flow naturally, too! This is a fantastic chance to meet new friends and families at Park Road. Take some time to get to know those sitting near you each Sunday!

Children’s Sunday School

Nursery care is available for children 3 and younger.

THIS WEEK AT PARK ROAD PRESBYTERIAN

Welcome to Park Road Pres! We are glad to have you with us today.

Sunday	9:00, 11:15 AM	Worship Service
	10:15 AM	Sunday Classes
	1:00 PM	S.A.L.T. Lunch Bunch @ Applebee's
Monday	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
	6:30 PM	PRYouth
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study on John (via Zoom) Contact Nate Dorn at ndorn1@gmail.com
	11:30 AM	S.A.L.T. Movie: The Chosen
	6:30—7:25 PM	Contemporary Worship Team Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	10:00 AM	Women's Prayer Time via Zoom Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
Saturday	9:00 AM	Worship Team Jam Session

SALT (Senior Adults Living Triumphantly) Lunch Bunch | 1:00 pm

Once a month on Sunday after the 11:15 AM service the SALT group goes out to lunch! Join them today at Applebee's located at 10135 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, 33026.

School Supplies

Throughout the month of July we've been collecting back-to-school supplies to be donated to The Caring Place at Broward Outreach. This is the last day to drop off your items.

Orchid:

If you would like to purchase (\$30) an orchid for 2025 to be placed in the Sanctuary for a special occasion, fill out your request on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form

PRYouth | Tuesdays | 6:30—8:30 PM

If you like pizza, games, and good friends then you should join us for Youth Group on Tuesday from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM! We have a time of community and discipleship weekly, as we study together the book of Acts from the New Testament.

S.A.L.T. Movie: *The Chosen* | Wed., July 30 | 11:30 AM | Library

Join the S.A.L.T. group as they gather on Wednesday, July 30th to watch Season 5, episodes 3 & 4 of *The Chosen*. Bring your own snack to enjoy. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form if you plan to attend.

The Bible Recap | Wed., Aug. 6 | 7:00-8:15 PM | Dottie's home

Contact Dottie Wobb at 954-649-7930 for info on this women's in-person Bible study meeting once a month at her home located at 5716 A Polk Street, Hollywood, 33021.

Back to School Kickoff | Fri., Aug. 8 | 5-8 PM | Fellowship Hall

Let's kickoff the school year with some fun -- board games, pizza, and ice cream. Bring your friends, your appetite, and your game face—we'll have something for EVERYONE. Come hungry. Leave happy.

MEMBERSHIP VOWS

- I. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
- II. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
- III. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
- IV. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
- V. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to promote its purity and peace?
- VI. Do you agree that if at anytime you consider no longer attending St. Andrews Park Road Presbyterian Church that you will make an appointment with an Elder or Pastor to discuss this decision?

